

Texas AWARE Program Model



Advancing Wellness and
Resiliency in Education



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services



The University of Texas at Austin
Texas Institute for Excellence
in Mental Health
Steve Hicks School of Social Work

What is the Texas AWARE Program?

Texas AWARE seeks to achieve intermediate and long-term outcomes for Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education (AWARE) through subgrants and collaboration with education service centers (ESCs) and local education agencies (LEAs) to accomplish the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) purpose, goals and activities that were approved for implementation by the Texas Education Agency in partnership with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and the Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health (TIEMH).

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Texas AWARE Goals:

GOAL 1

Increase and improve access to culturally competent and developmentally appropriate school and community-based mental health services.

GOAL 2

Increase awareness and identification of mental health issues among adults working with young people.

GOAL 3

Help students develop skills that promote resilience, self-regulation and pro-social behaviors, as well as avert development of mental health disorders and prevent youth violence.

GOAL 4

Develop an infrastructure that will sustain services at LEAs and ESCs and build statewide capacity for promoting mental health awareness and evidence-based practices.

Texas AWARE Program Priorities are to Support Implementation of:

A multi-tiered framework of mental health supports across a variety of organizations and providers.

Procedures for identifying, accessing and maximizing existing resources to support mental health outcomes.

A streamlined efficient and effective system for youth and families to access mental health supports and services.

Awareness of mental health issues by youth, families, community members and school personnel.

Tested and proven to be effective mental health practices designed to meet the needs of diverse populations.



Texas AWARE Vision

Texas will develop and sustain an integrated, multi-tiered system of supports that promotes the mental health and advances the resilience of students within family, educational and community settings. A multi-tiered system of complete mental health supports provides a framework for cross-system collaboration to ensure Texas youth can access the wide range of interventions associated with complete mental health.

Texas AWARE's integrated multi-tiered system of mental health supports builds upon six critical evidence-based components:

- District- and state-level leadership to prioritize the Texas AWARE vision and mission, oversee implementation, and allocate resources
- Capacity-building and infrastructure development, including workforce development through training and ongoing systems and practice-level training and coaching
- Interdisciplinary collaboration and communication guided by youth and family voice
- Data-based problem-solving processes for a broad range of complete mental health outcomes for youth
- Data evaluation systems for comprehensive screening and progress monitoring for effectiveness and fidelity
- Multiple tiers of evidence-based, culturally responsive practices and programs to support complete mental health



Texas AWARE State Management Team Partners

- Department of Family and Protective Services
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- Health and Human Services Commission
- South Southwest Mental Health Technology Transfer Center
- Texas Education Agency
- Texas Workforce Commission
- The University of Texas at Austin – Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health
- Unified Services for All Children Advisory Council

Texas AWARE Local Educational Agencies and Community Partners

- **Education Service Center 2**
 - Port Aransas Independent School District
 - Nueces Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities
- **Education Service Center 3**
 - Refugio Independent School District
 - Woodsboro Independent School District
 - Gulf Bend Center
- **Education Service Center 5**
 - Bridge City Independent School District
 - Spindletop Center

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